

OPINION 1662

Limax fibratus Martyn, 1784 and *Nerita hebraea* Martyn, 1786 (currently *Placostylus fibratus* and *Natica hebraea*; Mollusca, Gastropoda): specific names conserved; and *Placostylus* Beck, 1837: *L. fibratus* designated as the type species

Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary powers:
 - (a) the specific name *aurismalchi* Müller, 1774, as published in the binomen *Helix aurismalchi*, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy;
 - (b) the following specific names are hereby ruled to be available:
 - (i) *fibratus* Martyn, 1784, as published in the binomen *Limax fibratus*;
 - (ii) *hebraea* Martyn, 1786, as published in the binomen *Nerita hebraea*;
 - (c) all previous fixations of type species for the nominal genus *Placostylus* Beck, 1837 are hereby set aside and *Limax fibratus* Martyn, 1784 is designated as the type species.
- (2) The name *Placostylus* Beck, 1837 (gender: masculine), type species by designation under the plenary powers in (1)(c) above *Limax fibratus* Martyn, 1784, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.
- (3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *fibratus* Martyn, 1784, as published in the binomen *Limax fibratus* (specific name of the type species of *Placostylus* Beck, 1837);
 - (b) *hebraea* Martyn, 1786, as published in the binomen *Nerita hebraea*.
- (4) The following names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *aurismalchi* Müller, 1774, as published in the binomen *Helix aurismalchi* and suppressed in (1)(a) above;
 - (b) *elongata* Lightfoot, 1786, as published in the binomen *Voluta elongata* (a junior objective synonym of *Limax fibratus* Martyn, 1784).

History of Case 2641

An application for the conservation of the specific names of *Limax fibratus* Martyn, 1784 and *Nerita hebraea* Martyn, 1786, and the designation of *L. fibratus* as the type species of *Placostylus* Beck, 1837, was received from Dr Philippe Bouchet (*Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France*) on 5 February 1988. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 47: 12–18 (March 1990). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

An opposing comment from Dr R. Tucker Abbott (*American Malacologists, Inc., Melbourne, Florida, U.S.A.*) was published in BZN 47: 202 (September 1990), together with a reply by the author of the application and a comment in support from Dr Riccardo Giannuzzi-Savelli (*Società Italiana di Malacologia, Milan, Italy*). A comment by Mrs Anthea Gentry (*Secretariat, ICZN*) on the status of Martyn's (1784–1787) work *The universal conchologist* was published at the same time.

Comments in support from Drs Anders Warén (*Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet, Stockholm, Sweden*) and from Simon Tillier (*Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France*) were published in BZN 48: 54 (March 1991).

It was noted on the voting paper that in November 1990 Dr Bouchet passed to the Secretariat a copy of a message he had received from Dr Tucker Abbott. The latter wrote that he acquiesced over Martyn's work and that he would in future use the name *Placostylus fibratus* (Martyn, 1784). He also wrote 'the earliest name may be *Helix aurismalchi* Müller, 1774, based on Spengler's specimen (from New Caledonia, fide Chemnitz)* (see BZN 47: 13, para. 3). Dr Bouchet commented (in litt.) that his objection to the name *aurismalchi*, unused since 1848, was similar to that for *Bulinus bovinus* Bruguière (see BZN 47: 202), namely that Müller could not have described in Europe in 1774 a shell from New Caledonia when this island was discovered by Cook in the same year.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 September 1991 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 47: 15–16. At the close of the voting period on 1 December 1991 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 24: Bayer, Bock, Cocks, Corliss, Dupuis, Hahn, Heppell, Holthuis, Kabata, Kraus, Lehtinen, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Minelli, Nielsen, Nye, Ride, Savage, Schuster, Thompson, Trjapitzin, Uéno, Willink

Negative votes — 1: Halvorsen.

No votes were received from Cogger and Starobogatov.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on Official Lists and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

aurismalchi, *Helix*, Müller, 1774, *Vermium Terrestrium et Fluviatiliium...*, vol. 2, p. 112.

elongata, *Voluta*, Lightfoot, 1786, *A catalogue of the Portland Museum...*, p. 30.

fibratus, *Limax*, Martyn, 1784, *The universal conchologist...*, vol. 1, pl. 25.

hebraea, *Nerita*, Martyn, 1786, *The universal conchologist...*, vol. 3, pl. 109.

Placostylus Beck, 1837, *Index Molluscorum praesentis aevi Musei Principis Augustissimi Christiani Frederici*, p. 57.